

**Washington, DC** – Congressman Bruce Braley (D-Iowa) announced today more than \$24 million in Recovery Act funds to increase access to Broadband Internet in communities across Iowa. The US Departments of Commerce and Agriculture administer these grants so that communities may compete on a level playing field for economic growth.

“This money gives Iowa an extraordinary opportunity to expand high-speed Internet access in schools and businesses across the state,” Braley said. “In a fast-moving global economy, communities need broadband access to compete. These grants will create jobs, learning opportunities and access to broader business markets, helping our state’s economy to continue to grow.”

With new or improved broadband access, schools can create distance learning opportunities, medical professionals can provide remote care and small businesses can expand their markets beyond the local neighborhood. In the short-term, these Recovery Act funds will attract new businesses and create jobs, and establish a new foundation for long-term economic growth.

The grants will be distributed across Iowa as follows:

Cedar Falls Utility

**\$873,433**

This approximately \$873,000 award, matched by an equal amount in private contribution, will allow Cedar Falls Utility to

Iowa Telecommunications Services, Inc

**\$12,236,836**

This approximately \$12 million award matched by \$4,078,946 in private contribution, will allow approximately 10,000 additional homes to be served by fiber-optic broadband in Iowa.

Southwest Telephone Exchange, Inc.

**\$ 5,987,330**

This approximately \$6 million award will help fund the Southwest Iowa Fiber-to-the-Home Broadband Demonstration Project.

Iowa Telecommunications Services, Inc

**\$5,163,935**

This approximately \$5 million award matched by \$1,721,312 in private contribution, will allow Iowa Tele